



## UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 5  
77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD  
CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

### STATEMENT OF BASIS FOR ISSUANCE OF UNDERGROUND INJECTION CONTROL (UIC) PERMIT

**Permit Number:** MI-007-2D-0072

**Facility Name:** Stone # A2-36 SWD

Aurora Energy Ltd of Traverse City, Michigan, has applied for a United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) permit for the Stone # A2-36 SWD injection well to be used for non-commercial disposal of salt water in Mackinaw Project, Alpena County, Michigan.

Review of the permit application indicates that no significant environmental impact should result from the proposed injection. The USEPA, therefore, intends to issue a permit for this well. Under the authority of Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations (40 CFR) Parts 144 and 146, USEPA permits must specify conditions for construction, operation, monitoring, reporting, and plugging and abandonment of injection wells so as to prevent the movement of fluids into any Underground Source of Drinking Water (USDW). General provisions for USEPA UIC permit requirements are found at 40 CFR Parts 144 and 146, while regulations specific to Michigan injection operations are found at 40 CFR Part 147 Subpart X. In accordance with 40 CFR §124.7, general information and highlighted permit conditions specific to this well are as follows:

**Area of Review (AOR) and Corrective Action:** In accordance with 40 CFR §§144.55, 146.6 and 146.7, this is the area surrounding the well within which the applicant must research wells which penetrate the injection zone. If any of these wells are improperly sealed, completed or abandoned, and might provide a conduit for fluid migration, the applicant must develop a corrective action plan as shown in Attachment C of the permit to address the deficiency. The applicant has provided documentation on the well population within 1/4 mile of the injection well (i.e., the AOR). There are no producing, no injection, no temporarily abandoned, and no plugged and abandoned wells within the 1/4 mile radius AOR which penetrate the injection zone.

**Underground Sources of Drinking Water (USDWs):** USDWs are defined by the UIC regulations as aquifers or portions thereof which contain less than 10,000 milligrams per liter of total dissolved solids and which are being or could be used as a source of drinking water. The base of the lowermost possible USDW in the vicinity of the injection well has been identified at approximately 150 feet below ground surface. This water-bearing formation is the Glacial Drift.

**Injection and Confining Zone:** Injection of fluids for non-commercial disposal of salt water is limited by the permit to the Dundee Limestone in the interval between 1150 and 1360 feet below ground surface. This injection zone is separated from the lowermost USDW by approximately 1000 feet of rock strata.

**Construction Requirements:** The proposed construction of the injection well meets the regulatory criteria of 40 CFR §146.22. This requires that all new wells which inject fluids which are brought to the surface in connection with oil or natural gas production, or for enhanced recovery of oil or natural gas, be sited so that they inject into a formation which is separated from any USDW by a confining zone free of known open faults or fractures within the AOR. All Class II wells must also be cased and cemented to prevent the movement of fluids into or between USDWs. The permittee shall not commence construction, including drilling, of any new well until a final permit has been issued.

**Injection Fluid:** The injected fluid is limited by the permit to produced water. The expected maximum daily volume of fluid to be injected is 10,000 barrels.

**Maximum Injection Pressure:** The maximum injection pressure shall be limited to 372 pounds per square inch gauge (psig). This limitation will ensure that the pressure during injection does not initiate fractures in the confining zone adjacent to the lowermost USDW during injection operations. This in turn ensures that the injection pressure will not cause the movement of injection or formation fluids into a USDW as prohibited by 40 CFR §146.23(a)(1).

**Monitoring and Reporting Requirements:** In accordance with 40 CFR §§144.54 and 146.23, the applicant will be responsible for observing and recording injection pressure, flow rate, annulus pressure, and cumulative volume on a weekly basis and reporting this to the USEPA on a monthly basis. The applicant will also be responsible for observing, recording and reporting annulus liquid loss on a quarterly basis. An analysis of the injected fluid must be submitted on an annual basis. In addition, the applicant is required to conduct and pass a two-part Mechanical Integrity Test (MIT), in accordance with 40 CFR §146.8, before authorization to inject is granted, and after the well is completed. The applicant is also required to repeat the annulus pressure test, which is the first part of the MIT, at least once every five (5) years thereafter. If a temperature or noise log or another method as approved by the Director is used to determine the second part of the MIT (i.e., the absence of fluid movement), then the applicant will be required to repeat this test at least once every five (5) years thereafter. These tests will provide USEPA with an evaluation of the integrity of the tubular goods (casing, tubing and packer) as well as documentation as to the absence or presence of fluid movement behind the casing.

**Plugging and Abandonment:** In accordance with 40 CFR §§146.10 and 146.24(d), the permit includes a plugging and abandonment plan for an environmentally protective well closure at the time of cessation of operations. Aurora Energy Ltd has demonstrated adequate financial responsibility to close, plug, and abandon this underground injection operation. A Letter of Credit in the amount of \$10,000 has been established for this purpose with the Northwestern Bank of Traverse City, Michigan.

**Issuance and Effective Date of Permit:** In accordance with 40 CFR §124.15, the permit will become effective immediately upon issuance if no public comments were received that requested a change in the draft permit. However, in the event that public comments are received and requested a change in the draft permit then the permit will become effective thirty (30) days after the date of issuance unless the permit is appealed. In accordance with 40 CFR §144.36(a), the permit will be in effect for the life of the facility, unless it is otherwise modified, revoked and reissued, or terminated as provided at 40 CFR §§144.39, 144.40 and 144.41. The permit will expire in one (1) year if the permittee fails to commence construction, unless a written request for an extension of this one (1) year period has been approved by the Director. The permit will be reviewed by the USEPA at least once every five (5) years from its effective date for consistency with new or revised Federal regulations.

Questions, comments and requests for additional information or for a public hearing may be submitted in writing to the contact person listed below or made verbally to Roger Hall at (312) 353-5228 or [hall.roger@epa.gov](mailto:hall.roger@epa.gov) via the Internet. The public comment period on this permitting action will close thirty (30) days after the date of the public notice. If the USEPA receives written comments indicative of public interest that warrants a hearing on this action, a public notice of a scheduled hearing will be published locally and mailed to interested parties.

To preserve your right to appeal any final permit decision that may be made in this matter under 40 CFR Part 124, you must either participate in the public hearing or send in written comments on the draft permit decision. The first appeal must be made to the Environmental Appeals Board; only after all agency review procedures have been exhausted may you file an action in the appropriate Circuit Court of Appeals for review.

**U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Region 5 (WU-16J)  
77 West Jackson Boulevard  
Chicago, Illinois 60604**

**Attn: Lisa Perenchio, Chief  
Direct Implementation Section**

**DRAFT**

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**Lisa Perenchio, Chief  
Direct Implementation Section**



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION 5  
77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD  
CHICAGO, IL 60604-3560

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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (USEPA)  
UNDERGROUND INJECTION CONTROL PERMIT: CLASS II

Permit Number: MI-007-2D-0072

Facility Name: Stone # A2-36 SWD

Pursuant to the provisions of the Safe Drinking Water Act, as amended (42 U.S.C. 300f et seq., commonly known as the SDWA) and implementing regulations promulgated by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) at Parts 124, 144, 146 and 147 of Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations (40 CFR),

**Aurora Energy Ltd of Traverse City, Michigan**

is hereby authorized to construct and operate a newly drilled injection well located in Michigan, Alpena County, T30N, R7E, Section 36, 1/4 Section NW, for injection into the Dundee Limestone at depths between 1150 and 1360 feet, upon the express condition that the permittee meet the restrictions set forth herein. Injection shall not commence until the operator has received authorization in accordance with Part I(E) (10) of this permit.

The purpose of the injection is limited to non-commercial disposal of salt water from production wells owned or operated by Aurora Energy Ltd.

All references to Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations are to all regulations that are in effect on the date that this permit is effective.

This permit shall become effective on \_\_\_\_\_ and shall remain in full force and effect during the operating life of the well, unless this permit is otherwise revoked, terminated, modified or reissued pursuant to 40 CFR §§144.39, 144.40 and 144.41. This permit shall also remain in effect upon delegation of primary enforcement responsibility to the State of Michigan, unless that State chooses to adopt this permit as a State permit. The permit will expire in one (1) year if the permittee fails to commence construction, unless a written request for an extension of this one (1) year period has been approved by the Director. The permittee may request an expiration date sooner than the one (1) year period, provided no construction on the well has commenced. This permit will be reviewed at least every five (5) years from the effective date specified above.

Signed and dated: \_\_\_\_\_

**DRAFT**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jo Lynn Traub  
Director, Water Division

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 5

77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD  
CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (USEPA)

UNDERGROUND INJECTION CONTROL PERMIT: CLASS II

Permit Number: MI-007-2D-0072

Facility Name: Stone # A2-36 SWD

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Signed and dated: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jo Lynn Traub  
Director, Water Division

**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

REGION 5  
77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD  
CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

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**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (USEPA)  
UNDERGROUND INJECTION CONTROL PERMIT: CLASS II**

**Permit Number:** MI-007-2D-0072

**Facility Name:** Stone # A2-36 SWD

Pursuant to the provisions of the Safe Drinking Water Act, as amended (42 U.S.C. 300f et seq., commonly known as the SDWA) and implementing regulations promulgated by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) at Parts 124, 144, 146 and 147 of Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations (40 CFR),

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Signed and dated: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jo Lynn Traub  
Director, Water Division

**PART I****GENERAL PERMIT COMPLIANCE****A. EFFECT OF PERMIT**

The permittee is allowed to engage in underground injection in accordance with the conditions of this permit. The underground injection activity, otherwise authorized by this permit or rule, shall not allow the movement of fluid containing any contaminant into underground sources of drinking water, if the presence of that contaminant may cause a violation of any Primary Drinking Water Regulation pursuant to 40 CFR Part 142 or may otherwise adversely affect the health of persons. Any underground injection activity not specifically authorized in this permit or otherwise authorized by permit or rule is prohibited. Issuance of this permit does not convey property rights of any sort or any exclusive privilege; nor does it authorize any injury to persons or property, any invasion of other private rights, or any infringement of State or local law or regulations. Compliance with the terms of this permit does not constitute a defense to any action brought under Section 1431 of the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA), or any other law governing protection of public health or the environment.

**B. PERMIT ACTIONS**

This permit may be modified, revoked and reissued, or terminated for cause as specified in 40 CFR §§144.39, 144.40, and 144.41. The filing of a request for a permit modification, revocation and reissuance, termination, or the notification of planned changes or anticipated noncompliance on the part of the permittee does not stay the applicability or enforceability of any permit condition.

**C. SEVERABILITY**

The provisions of this permit are severable, and if any provision of this permit or the application of any provision of this permit to any circumstance is held invalid, the application of such provision to other circumstances and the remainder of this permit shall not be affected thereby.

**D. CONFIDENTIALITY**

In accordance with 40 CFR Part 2 and §144.5, any information submitted to the USEPA pursuant to this permit may be claimed as confidential by the submitter. Any such claim must be asserted at the time of submission by stamping the words "confidential business information" on each page containing such information. If no claim is made at the time of submission, USEPA may make the information available to the public without further notice.

If a claim is asserted, the validity of the claim will be assessed in accordance with the procedures in 40 CFR Part 2 (Public Information). Claims of confidentiality for the following information will be denied:

- (1) The name and address of the permittee; and,
- (2) Information which deals with the existence, absence or level of contaminants in drinking water.

**E. DUTIES AND REQUIREMENTS**

1. **Duty to Comply** - The permittee shall comply with all conditions of this permit, except to the extent and for the duration such non-compliance is authorized by an emergency permit pursuant to 40 CFR §144.34. Any permit noncompliance constitutes a violation of the SDWA and is grounds for enforcement action, permit termination, revocation and reissuance or modification.
2. **Penalties for Violations of Permit Conditions** - Any person who operates this well in violation of permit conditions is subject to civil penalties, fines, and other enforcement action under the SDWA and may be subject to such actions under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act. Any person who willfully violates a permit condition is subject to criminal prosecution.
3. **Need to Halt or Reduce Activity not a Defense** - It shall not be a defense for a permittee in an enforcement action to state that it would have been necessary to halt or reduce the permitted activity in order to maintain compliance with the conditions of this permit.
4. **Duty to Mitigate** - The permittee shall take all reasonable steps to minimize or correct any adverse impact on the environment resulting from noncompliance with this permit.
5. **Proper Operation and Maintenance** - The permittee shall at all times properly operate and maintain all facilities and systems of treatment and control (and related appurtenances) which are installed or used by the permittee to achieve compliance with the conditions of this permit. Proper operation and maintenance includes effective performance, adequate funding, adequate operator staffing and training, and adequate laboratory and process controls, including appropriate quality assurance procedures. This provision requires the operation of back-up or auxiliary facilities or similar systems only when necessary to achieve compliance with the conditions of the permit.
6. **Duty to Provide Information** - The permittee shall furnish to the Director, within thirty (30) days, any information which the Director may request to determine whether cause exists for modifying, revoking and reissuing, or terminating this permit, or to determine compliance with this permit. The permittee shall also furnish to the Director, upon request, copies of records required by this permit to be retained.



7. **Inspection and Entry** - The permittee shall allow the Director, or an authorized representative, upon the presentation of credentials and other documents as may be required by law to:
- (a) Enter upon the permittee's premises where a regulated facility or activity is located or conducted, or where records are kept under the conditions of this permit;
  - (b) Have access to and copy, at reasonable times, any records that must be retained under the conditions of this permit;
  - (c) Inspect, at reasonable times, any facilities, equipment (including monitoring equipment), practices, or operations, regulated or required under this permit; and
  - (d) Sample or monitor the injected fluids, at reasonable times, for the purposes of assuring permit compliance, or as otherwise authorized by the SDWA, at any location.
8. **Records**
- (a) The permittee shall retain records of all monitoring information, including all calibration and maintenance records and copies of all records required by this permit, for a period of at least three (3) years from the date of the sample, measurement or report. The permittee shall also maintain records of all data required to complete this permit application and any supplemental information submitted under 40 CFR §§144.31 and 144.51. These periods may be extended by request of the Director at any time by written notice to the permittee.
  - (b) The permittee shall retain records concerning the nature and composition of all injected fluids until three (3) years after the completion of plugging and abandonment in accordance with the plugging and abandonment plan, contained in Part III(B) of this permit. The owner or operator shall continue to retain the records after the three (3) year retention period unless he delivers the records to the Regional Administrator or obtains written approval from the Regional Administrator to discard the records.
  - (c) Records of monitoring information shall include:
    - (i) The date, exact place, and the time of sampling or measurements;
    - (ii) The individual(s) who performed the sampling or measurements;
    - (iii) A precise description of both sampling methodology and the handling of samples;
    - (iv) The date(s) analyses were performed;

- (v) The individual(s) who performed the analyses;
- (vi) The analytical techniques or methods used; and,
- (vii) The results of such analyses.

9. **Notification Requirements**

- (a) **Planned Changes** - The permittee shall notify and obtain the Director's approval at least thirty (30) days prior to any planned physical alterations or additions to the permitted facility, or changes in the injection fluids. Within ten (10) days prior to injection, an analysis of new injection fluids shall be submitted to the Director for approval in accordance with Parts II(B)(2) and II(B)(3) of this permit.
- (b) **Anticipated Noncompliance** - The permittee shall give at least thirty (30) days advance notice to the Director for his/her approval of any planned changes in the permitted facility or activity which may result in noncompliance with permit requirements.
- (c) **Transfer of Permits** - This permit is not transferrable to any person except after notice is sent to the Director at least thirty (30) days prior to transfer and the requirements of 40 CFR §144.38 have been met. The Director may require modification or revocation of the permit to change the name of the permittee and incorporate such other requirements as may be necessary under the SDWA.
- (d) **Compliance Schedules** - Reports of compliance or noncompliance with, or any progress reports on, interim and final requirements contained in any compliance schedule of this permit shall be submitted to the Director no later than thirty (30) days following each schedule date.
- (e) **Twenty-Four Hour Reporting**
  - (i) The permittee shall report to the Director any noncompliance which may endanger health or the environment. This information shall be provided orally within twenty-four (24) hours from the time the permittee becomes aware of the circumstances, and shall include the following information:
    - (a) Any monitoring or other information which indicates that any contaminant may cause an endangerment to an underground source of drinking water; or,
    - (b) Any noncompliance with a permit condition or malfunction of the injection system which may cause fluid migration into or between underground sources of drinking water.

- (ii) A written submission shall also be provided as soon as possible but no later than five (5) days from the time the permittee becomes aware of the circumstances. The written submission shall contain a description of the noncompliance and its cause; the period of noncompliance, including exact dates and times, and if the noncompliance has not been corrected, the anticipated time it is expected to continue; and steps taken or planned to reduce, eliminate, and prevent recurrence of the noncompliance.
  - (f) **Other Noncompliance** - All other instances of noncompliance shall also be reported by the permittee in accordance with Part I(E)(9)(e)(i) and (ii) of this permit.
  - (g) **Other Information** - If or when the permittee becomes aware that the permittee failed to submit any relevant facts in the permit application, or submitted incorrect information in a permit application or in any report to the Director, the permittee shall promptly submit such facts or corrected information in accordance with 40 CFR §144.51(l)(8).
  - (h) **Report on Permit Review** - Within thirty (30) days of receipt of the final issued permit, the permittee shall report to the Director that the permittee has read and is personally familiar with all terms and conditions of this permit.
10. **Commencing Injection** - The permittee shall not commence injection into any newly drilled or converted well until:
- (a) Formation data and injection fluid analysis have been submitted in accordance with Parts II(A)(6) and II(B)(2), respectively;
  - (b) A report on any logs and tests required under Parts II(A)(5) and III(D) of this permit has been submitted.
  - (c) Mechanical integrity of the well has been demonstrated in accordance with Part I(E)(17);
  - (d) Any required corrective action has been performed in accordance with Parts I(E)(16) and III(C); and,
  - (e) Construction is complete and the permittee has submitted to the Permit Writer, by certified mail with return receipt requested, a notice of completion of construction using EPA Form 7520-10 and either:
    - (i) The Director has inspected or otherwise reviewed the new injection well and finds it is in compliance with the conditions of the permit; or,

- (ii) The permittee has not received, within thirteen (13) days of the date of the Director's receipt of the report required above, notice from the Director of his or her intent to inspect or otherwise review the new injection well, in which case prior inspection or review is waived and the permittee may commence injection.
11. **Signatory Requirements** - All reports or other information requested by the Director shall be signed and certified according to 40 CFR §144.32.
12. **Notice of Plugging and Abandonment** - The permittee shall notify the Director at least forty-five (45) days before conversion or abandonment of the well.
13. **Plugging and Abandonment** - The permittee shall plug and abandon the well as provided in the plugging and abandonment plan contained in Part III(B) of this permit. Plugging shall occur as soon as practicable after operation ceases but not later than two (2) years thereafter. During the period of non-operation, the well must be tested to ensure that it maintains mechanical integrity, unless the permittee fulfills the other requirements under 40 CFR §144.52(a) (6), prior to expiration of the two (2) year period. The permittee shall notify the Director of plugging and abandonment in accordance with the reporting procedures in Part I(E)(12) of this permit.
14. **Financial Responsibility** - The permittee shall maintain financial responsibility and resources to plug and abandon the underground injection well in accordance with 40 CFR §144.52(a)(7) as provided in Attachment R of the administrative record corresponding to this permit action which is hereby incorporated by reference as if it appeared fully set forth herein. The permittee shall not substitute an alternative demonstration of financial responsibility from that which the Director has approved, unless the permittee has previously submitted evidence of that alternative demonstration to the Director and the Director has notified the permittee in writing that the alternative demonstration of financial responsibility is acceptable. The financial responsibility mechanism shall be updated periodically, upon request of the Director, except when Financial Statement Coverage is used as the financial mechanism, this coverage must be updated on an annual basis.

15. **Insolvency**

- (a) In the event of the bankruptcy of the trustee or issuing institution of the financial mechanism, or a suspension or revocation of the authority of the trustee institution to act as trustee or the institution issuing the financial mechanism to issue such an instrument, the permittee must submit an alternative demonstration of financial responsibility acceptable to the Director within sixty (60) days after such event. Failure to do so will result in the termination of this permit pursuant to 40 CFR §144.40(a)(1).
- (b) An owner or operator must also notify the Director by certified mail of the commencement of voluntary or involuntary proceedings under Title 11 (Bankruptcy), U.S. Code, naming the owner or operator as debtor, within ten (10) business days after the commencement of the proceeding. A guarantor of a corporate guarantee must make such a notification if he/she is named as debtor, as required under the terms of the guarantee.

16. **Corrective Action**

The permittee shall shut in the injection well whenever he/she or the USEPA determines that operation thereof may be causing upward fluid migration through the wellbore of any improperly plugged or unplugged well in the area of review and shall take such steps as he/she can to properly plug the offending well(s). Any operation of the well which may cause upward fluid migration from an improperly plugged or unplugged well will be considered a violation of this permit. If the permittee or the USEPA determines that the permitted well is not in compliance with 40 CFR §146.8, the permittee will immediately shut in the well until such time as appropriate repairs can be effected and written approval to resume injection is given by the Director. In addition, the permittee shall not commence injection until any and all corrective action has been taken in accordance with any plan contained in Part III(C) of this permit and the requirements in Part I(E)(10) of this permit have been met.

17. **Mechanical Integrity**

- (a) The permittee must establish (prior to receiving authorization to inject), and shall maintain mechanical integrity of this well, in accordance with 40 CFR §146.8.

- (b) A demonstration of mechanical integrity, in accordance with 40 CFR §146.8, shall be performed at least every five (5) years from the date of the last approved demonstration. The permittee shall notify the Director of his/her intent to demonstrate mechanical integrity at least thirty (30) days prior to such demonstration.
  - (c) The permittee shall demonstrate the mechanical integrity of the well by pressure testing whenever:
    - (i) the tubing is removed from the well or replaced;
    - (ii) the packer is reset; or,
    - (iii) a loss of mechanical integrity occurs. Operation shall cease whenever one of the aforementioned conditions occurs and not resume until the Director gives approval to recommence injection.
  - (d) The Director may, by written notice, require the permittee to demonstrate mechanical integrity at any time.
  - (e) The permittee shall cause all gauges used in mechanical integrity demonstrations to be calibrated prior to the demonstration.
  - (f) The permittee shall cease injection if a loss of mechanical integrity occurs or is discovered during a test, or a loss of mechanical integrity as defined by 40 CFR §146.8 becomes evident during operation. Operations shall not be resumed until the Director gives approval to recommence injection.
  - (g) The permittee shall notify the Director of the loss of mechanical integrity, in accordance with the reporting procedures in Parts II(B)(3)(d) and I(E)(9)(e) of this permit.
  - (h) The permittee shall report the result of a satisfactory mechanical integrity demonstration as provided in Part II(B)(3)(d) of this permit, except the first such result after Permit issuance, which shall be sent to the Permit Writer.
18. **Restriction on Injected Substances** - The permittee shall be restricted to the injection of oil field brines or those fluids used in the enhancement of oil and gas production as specified in 40 CFR §146.5(b). Further, no fluids other than those from sources noted in the administrative record and approved by the Director shall be injected.

**PART II****WELL SPECIFIC CONDITIONS FOR UNDERGROUND INJECTION CONTROL PERMITS****A. CONSTRUCTION REQUIREMENTS**

1. **Siting** - Notwithstanding any other provision of this permit, the injection well shall inject only into a formation which is separated from any USDW by a confining zone that is free of known open faults or fractures within the area of the review.
2. **Casing and Cementing** - Injection wells shall be cased and cemented to prevent the movement of fluids into or between underground sources of drinking water. The casing and cement to be used in the construction of the well shall be as contained in Attachments L and M of the administrative record corresponding to this permit action which are hereby incorporated by reference as if they appeared fully set forth herein.
3. **Tubing and Packer Specifications** - Injection shall only take place through tubing with a packer set in the long string casing within or below the nearest cemented and impermeable confining system immediately above the injection zone. Tubing and packer specifications shall be as represented in engineering drawings contained in Attachments L and M of the administrative record corresponding to this permit action which are hereby incorporated by reference as if they appeared fully set forth herein. Any proposed changes shall be submitted by the permittee in accordance with Part I(E)(9)(a) and (b) of this permit.
4. **Wellhead Specifications** - For every injection well, the operator shall provide a female fitting, with a cutoff valve, to the tubing at the wellhead, so that the amount of injection pressure being used may be measured by a representative of the USEPA by attaching a gauge having a male fitting.
5. **Logs and Tests** - Upon approval of the surface casing and cementation records by the Director, any logs and tests noted in Part III of this permit shall be performed, unless already provided. Prior to commencement of injection, the permittee shall submit a descriptive report prepared by a knowledgeable log analyst interpreting the results of those logs and tests to the Director for approval along with the notice of completion required in Part I(E)(10) of this permit.
6. **Formation Data** - If not already provided, the permittee shall determine or calculate the following information concerning the injection formation and submit it to the Director for review and approval, prior to operation:

- (a) Formation fluid pressure;
- (b) Fracture pressure; and,
- (c) Physical and chemical characteristics of the formation.

7. **Prohibition of Unauthorized Injection** - Any underground injection, except as authorized by permit or rule issued under the UIC program, is prohibited. The construction, including drilling, of any well required to have a permit is prohibited until the permit has been issued.

## **B. OPERATING, MONITORING AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS**

### **1. Operating Requirements**

- (a) Beginning on the effective date of this permit, the permittee is authorized to operate the injection well, subject to the limitations and monitoring requirements set forth herein. The injection pressure and injected fluid shall be limited and monitored as specified in Parts I(E)(18) and III(A) of this permit.
- (b) Injection at a pressure which initiates fractures in the confining zone or causes the movement of injection or formation fluids into or between underground sources of drinking water is prohibited.
- (c) Injection between the outermost casing protecting underground sources of drinking water and the well bore is prohibited.
- (d) The annulus between the tubing and the long string casing shall be filled with a liquid designed to inhibit corrosion. The annulus liquid will be monitored in accordance with Parts II(B)(2)(d) and II(B)(3)(b) of this permit. Any specific annulus requirements are contained in Part III(A) of this permit.

### **2. Monitoring Requirements**

- (a) Samples and measurements, taken for the purpose of monitoring as required in Part II(B)(3), shall be representative of the monitored activity. Grab samples shall be used to obtain a representative sample of the fluid to be analyzed. Part III(A) of this permit describes the sampling location and required parameters for injection fluid analysis. The permittee shall identify the types of tests and methods used to generate the monitoring data. The monitoring program shall conform to the one described in Part III(A) of this permit.
- (b) **Analytical Methods** - Monitoring of the nature of injected fluids shall comply with applicable analytical methods cited and described in Table I of 40 CFR §136.3 or in Appendix III of 40 CFR Part 261 or by other methods that have been approved by the Director.



- (c) **Injection Fluid Analysis** - The nature of the injection fluids shall be monitored as specified in Part III(A) of this permit. An initial analysis of the injection fluid is contained in Attachment H of the administrative record corresponding to this permit action which is hereby incorporated by reference as if it appeared fully set forth herein. The Director may, by written notice require the permittee to sample and analyze the injected fluid at any time.
  - (d) **Injection Pressure, Annulus Pressure, Annulus Liquid Loss, Flow Rate and Cumulative Volume** - Injection pressure, annulus pressure, flow rate and cumulative volume shall be recorded at least weekly and shall be reported monthly as specified in Part III(A) of this permit. Annulus liquid loss shall be recorded at least quarterly and shall be reported in accordance with the provisions of Part II(B)(3)(b), as the volume of liquid added to the annulus to keep it filled in accordance with Part II(B)(1)(d). All gauges used in monitoring shall be calibrated in accordance with Part I(E)(17)(e) of this permit.
3. **Reporting Requirements** - Copies of the monitoring results and all other reports shall be submitted to the Director at the following address:
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Region 5  
77 West Jackson Boulevard  
Chicago, Illinois 60604  
Attn: UIC Branch, Direct Implementation (WU-16J)**
- (a) **Monthly Reports** - Monitoring results obtained during each week shall be recorded on a form which has been signed and certified according to 40 CFR §144.32. The first report shall be postmarked no later than the 10th day of the month after authorization to inject has been granted. Thereafter, forms shall be submitted at the end of each month and shall be postmarked no later than the 10th day of the month following the reporting period. This report shall include the weekly measurements of injection pressure, annulus pressure, flow rate and cumulative volume as required in Parts II(B)(2)(d) and III(A) of this permit.
  - (b) **Quarterly Reports** - Monitoring results obtained each quarter shall include the measurement of annulus liquid loss as required in Parts II(B)(2)(d) and III(A) of this permit. Reports shall be submitted at the end of each quarter and shall be postmarked no later than the 10th day of the first month of the following quarter.

- (c) Annual Reports - Monitoring results obtained each year shall include the measurements of injected fluid characteristics as required in Part III(A) of this permit. Reports shall be submitted at the end of each anniversary year and shall be postmarked no later than the 10th day of the first month of the following year.
- (d) Reports on Well Tests, Workovers, and Plugging and Abandonment - The applicant shall provide the Director with the following reports and test results within sixty (60) days of completion of the activity:
  - (i) Mechanical integrity tests, except tests which the well fails in which case twenty-four (24) hour reporting under Part I(9)(e) is applicable;
  - (ii) Logging or other test data;
  - (iii) Well workovers (using EPA Form 7520-12); and
  - (iv) Plugging and abandonment.

**PART III****SPECIAL CONDITIONS**

These special conditions include, but are not limited to plans for maintaining correct operating procedures, monitoring conditions and reporting, as required by 40 CFR Parts 144 and 146. These plans are described in detail in the permittee's application for a permit, and the permittee is required to adhere to these plans as approved by the Director, as follows:

- A. OPERATING, MONITORING AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS (ATTACHED)**
- B. PLUGGING AND ABANDONMENT PLAN (ATTACHED)**
- C. CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN (ATTACHED)**
- D. ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS (ATTACHED - IF REQUIRED)**

**OPERATING, MONITORING AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS**

<b><u>Characteristic</u></b>	<b><u>LIMITATION</u></b>	<b><u>MINIMUM MONITORING REQUIREMENTS</u></b>		<b><u>MINIMUM REPORTING REQUIREMENTS</u></b>
		<b><u>Freq.</u></b>	<b><u>Type</u></b>	<b><u>Freq.</u></b>
*Injection Pressure	372 psig (MAXIMUM)	weekly		monthly
Annulus Pressure		weekly		monthly
Flow Rate		weekly		monthly
Cumulative Volume		weekly		monthly
Annulus Liquid Loss		quarterly		quarterly
**Chemical Composition of Injected Fluid		annually	grab	annually

**SAMPLING LOCATION:** Samples will be taken from the wellhead.

\*The limitation on wellhead pressure serves to prevent confining-formation fracturing. This limitation was calculated using the following formula:

$$[ \{ 0.8 \text{ psi/ft} - (0.433 \text{ psi/ft}) (\text{specific gravity}) \} \times \text{depth} ] - 14.7 \text{ psi}$$
The maximum injection pressure is dependent upon depth and specific gravity of the injected fluid. The Dundee Limestone at 1150 feet was used as the depth and a specific gravity of 1.07 was used for the injected fluid.

\*\*Chemical composition analysis shall include, but not be limited to, the following: Sodium, Calcium, Magnesium, Barium, Total Iron, Chloride, Sulfate, Carbonate, Bicarbonate, Sulfide, Total Dissolved Solids, pH, Resistivity (ohm-meters @ 75°F), and Specific Gravity.

**CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN**

No corrective action is required at this time.



United States  
Environmental Protection  
Agency, Region 5

77 West Jackson Boulevard  
Chicago, Illinois 60604-3590  
Mail Code WU-16J

Water Division

Underground Injection Control Branch

## PUBLIC NOTICE

APRIL 12, 2004

The United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5 office, plans to issue an injection well permit. This is your chance to send written comments on this proposed Class II injection well permit.

The Safe Drinking Water Act requires us to regulate underground injection of fluids through wells to protect the quality of underground sources of drinking water. This is done in part by issuing permits to owners/operators of underground injection wells. The regulations governing underground injection wells are at Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations (40 C.F.R.) Parts 144 and 146. The procedure for the permit process is at 40 C.F.R. §124.5. More information about our program is on the Internet at <http://www.epa.gov/r5water/uic/uic.htm>.

### FACTS

Aurora Energy Ltd. of Traverse City, Michigan will own and operate one proposed well for disposal of salt water. Aurora Energy Ltd. of 3760 North US 31 South of Traverse City, Michigan will inject produced water into a rock formation 1150 feet below the ground surface.

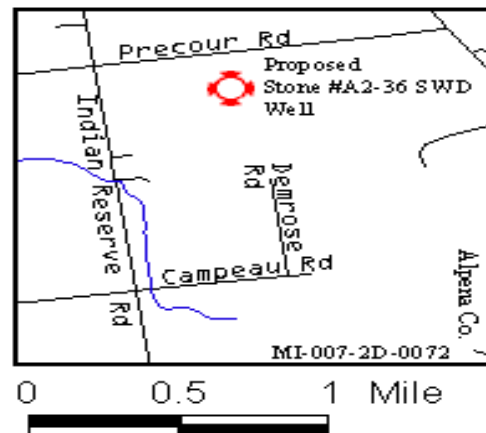
**LOCATION:** Alpena County, SE 1/4, NE 1/4, NW 1/4, Section 36, T30N, R7E; (See Map)

**USEPA DRAFT PERMIT** #MI-007-2D-0072

**WELL NAME** Stone # A2-36 SWD

**STATE NUMBER** MDEQ Permit Applied For

**PERMIT WRITER:** Roger Hall (312) 353-5228 or [hall.roger@epa.gov](mailto:hall.roger@epa.gov) via the Internet



You may see the draft permit at: **Alpena County Library, 211 North First Street, Alpena, Michigan; Monday-Wednesday 9:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m., Tuesday-Thursday- Friday 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Saturday 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.** The draft permit is also on the Internet at: <http://www.epa.gov/r5water/uic/uic.htm>.

Send your written comments to the Permit Writer at the Internet address listed above, or to this address.

**U.S. Environmental Protection Agency**  
**DI Section (Attn: Lisa Perenchio)**  
**77 West Jackson Boulevard, (WU-16J)**  
**Chicago, Illinois 60604-3590**

We must receive your comments within 30 days after the date at the top of this notice. During the public comment period, you may request a public hearing in writing. You must state the issues you propose to raise at the hearing. If we receive many comments on this draft permit decision, we will hold a hearing, and publish a notice of the hearing at least 30 days before the hearing. If there is a hearing, you may make your comments then. We will consider all comments received and then issue a final permit decision.

If you wish to visit the Region 5 office, please call the Permit Writer first. The office is at the address listed above, and is open between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. You may view the administrative record, including all data submitted by Aurora Energy Ltd., at the Region 5 office.